

SEEKING THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

One of The National Tribune People Touring to the Far North.

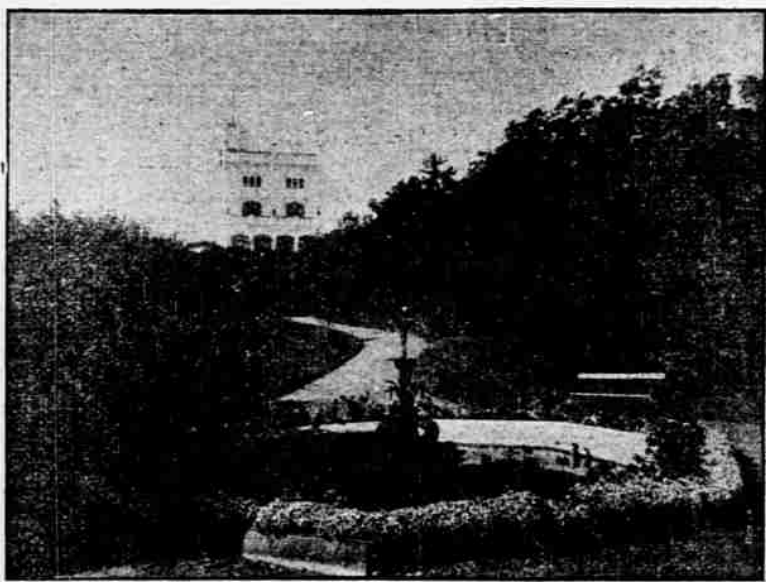
XIII. Christiania, Norway.—Dear "Favorite Niece." The other morning, after I had finished my letter to you, Elizabeth and I put on our things and went out to look Christiania over a bit and to make the arrangements for our journey to Brussels. We had decided to spend three or four days in the Norwegian capital, if the weather remained pleasant, then to go to Copenhagen for a couple of days, then to Amsterdam, for about the same length of time, and from that city to Brussels. We were not bothering our heads as to how we were to get there, because we knew that the Bennett Tourist Agency would attend to all that. I suppose it costs a little more to let these tourist people arrange your trip for you, but just think of the trouble and worry the traveler escapes by putting the whole matter into their hands. Of course, for women wandering about alone, like Elizabeth and me, in a country strange to us both, and where the people might as well be dumb for all the good their language does us, the agency is a great help. It is like a "light in the window for thee, dear," the rescuing hand in the moment of peril, the radiant face of Hope when black despair fills the heart.

The sun, whose rays were all ablaze, looked down upon us in a nice, welcoming manner as we stepped out upon the street on which this hotel faces the Storthing-Gaden. It is called (I have told you before that "Gaden" means street) and stopped for a moment to survey the scene around us. We seemed to be in the very heart of things. At the head of the street on our right, on a slight eminence, stood the Palace, a perfectly plain building, such as one might expect to find in a plain democratic country like Norway. It was only a short walk from where we stood, and we could see that it had a park in the rear, but nothing at all in the front in the way of landscape gardening. Facing the Palace was the equestrian statue of Charles XIV., who, you remember, was the great Napoleon's Marshal Bernadotte, and whom the Swedish Government called to be their king on the death of Charles XIII. in 1818.

There was never any love lost between Napoleon and Bernadotte; each was jealous of the other, and when the coalition was formed against the French Emperor in 1812 Bernadotte united himself with the opposing armies. He and Napoleon were connected, too, in a way, for both Bernadotte and Joseph Bonaparte, Napoleon's eldest brother, married sisters—"the Clary girls," we would call them if they had been Americans—daughters of a rich French merchant. Bernadotte was a man of much nobility of character, a finished diplomat, as well as a very great general, and he governed Sweden and Norway wisely and well for a period of 26 years, or until his death in 1844. The late King Oscar of Sweden was his grandson. Directly in front of us, a pretty park, and to the right of that the National Theatre, quite a handsome building, with statues of Isen and Bjornson fronting it. To our left were the Parliament Buildings, called the Storthing-Byggingen, which also face the park as well as the theatre, and which consist of three buildings, the central one of which I thought very handsome, and so did Elizabeth. You can make up your own opinion on this subject from the enclosed picture.

We were right in the midst of the shopping district, too, the Bennett place being only five or six doors away. The Bennett and Senner Tourist Office in Christiania is a shop where photographs and a very courteous, clever guide, the two rooms in the rear being given up to the agency. These are filled with tables and chairs, and seated

ing her to direct me to his shop. She tried to tell me how to get there, but it was complicated, and her English vocabulary limited, so she insisted upon taking us to the place herself, though it was a long walk and took her much out of her way. Elizabeth and I were delighted with the trolley cars, which had plate glass windows with pretty white curtains looped back from their sides, and the curtains are clean, too. We took a long ride during the afternoon in one of these, passing by the National Park, in which we saw many people walking, so concluded it must be thrown open to the public. We got a very good idea of the best residence part of Christiania during this ride, and our favorable impression of the city deepened with every hour of better acquaintance.



THE PARK, WITH THE PALACE IN THE BACKGROUND.

That evening just before retiring I went to Elizabeth's room. "Elizabeth," I said, "I can hardly account for it, but my room is so clean and nice, the furniture so fresh and new looking; besides, my window has been open all day while we were out, and yet there is that same disagreeable odor about it that our rooms in Bergen had."

"I have noticed the same thing about it," Elizabeth answered, "and hesitated to speak of it to you for the same reason, but it seemed to me it wasn't quite as unpleasant as at Bergen, so I made up my mind to endure it." I sniffed around Elizabeth's room a little, somewhat disagreeably odoriferous, I was forced to admit, and told her it couldn't hold a candle to mine in the matter of smelliness, which was perfectly true, but agreed with her that our short stay would hardly warrant a change of rooms, and that I did better make no complaint. It did seem strange, tho, that up to the time we were struck Bergen everything had been absolutely fresh and sweet about all the rooms we had occupied, from those at the Hotel de la Ville to the simplest and plainest of the accommodation afforded by the little inns visited during our driving trip. The only way we could account for it at all was by supposing that the standards of good housekeeping were not so high in Bergen and Christiania as in smaller towns and country places.

The next morning we started out bright and early on a regular sight-seeing expedition. First, we went to the Storthing, not a five minutes' walk from our hotel, and with a young woman, picked up in the basement as guide, who spoke English, of course,

picturesque old pirates of the North, who pounced down on the coasts of the British Isles and France in the eighth, ninth and tenth centuries, carrying terror to the heart of the inhabitants, and sailing away in their big black vessels loaded with rich plunder. They were a high-handed lot, these same Vikings, and along the fjords of the north little, well-concealed landings are still pointed out as the hiding places where they ran in with their spoils. The word "Viking" does not signify that they were really kings at all, tho they certainly had the "say so" on this high seas when they were abroad, and old Neptune with his trident had to take a back seat, sure enough; but the word comes from Scandinavian "vik," meaning bay, and these pirates were called "Vikings" because their ships put off, not from the lawful harbor, as did the King's ships, but from the bay. Christiania Park, the precinct of the city, of these ancient Viking ships, one of which, it is claimed, was taken just as it is shown from the rock where it was found, and the other two are in various kinds; but as Norway is not specially celebrated for its art, and as we had before us the wonderful collection of the Amusement Museum, we felt no very keen interest in the pictures here, and concluded, anyway, we would content ourselves with the view from the city, which was reached in the way of in-door sight-seeing.

It was a perfectly lovely day, and late in the afternoon I said to Elizabeth, "Let's go down to the harbor for supper." "All right," replied she, "let's." Dronnigen, favorite niece, is a little point of land projecting out into the fjord, not far from the city, which you reach by boat, and where there is a nice restaurant, frequented in the summer by the swells of Norway's capital. So, at the proper time, we took ourselves to the place, and I enjoyed watching the parties of men and women who kept coming and going. In plain sight of the restaurant was the great old building, which by one of the early Oscars and lived in by most of the Norwegian Kings since, and which is now being renovated for the purpose of a museum. The Queen Maud and King Haakon have a charming little box. The chateau looked very pretty, its white tower showing above the green trees which surround it.

We like this hotel very much, and can recommend it to you, if you ever come to Christiania. It is what I called a family hotel, and seems to be all on two floors. It is kept by a Miss Peters, a Norwegian, I believe, but she doesn't look it, and her English is quite perfect. The dining-room is small, and one maid serves us all. This maid is a decided character. I cannot conceive of anything distating her perfect politeness, and she evidently has her little method, and nothing would induce her to change it. She moves around with absolute quietness and deliberation, no matter how many are waiting to be served, and it is really remarkable how she manages to get everybody started as soon as she does. Fortunately, the guests of the house do not all come to their meals at the same time, and that helps a lot, of course. At the first supper we took in the house, which I think was the best I ever had, the guests of the house did not come to their meals at the same time, and that helps a lot, of course. At the first supper we took in the house, which I think was the best I ever had, the guests of the house did not come to their meals at the same time, and that helps a lot, of course.

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We "did" the buildings. The two chambers, Upper and Lower, looked tiny to Elizabeth and me in comparison with the House and Senate Chambers at Washington, but they were attractive rooms, with a small private box on either side of the place where the presiding officer sits, for foreign diplomats. The Upper House, as is always the case, is smaller than the other chamber, and has a large picture in it representing the first parliament, and also a very handsome crystal chandelier, which Elizabeth and I found very attractive. The Lower House has 123 members, so the young lady told us, (feminine information on matters political cannot always be relied upon, however,)

We spent the rest of the morning wandering rather aimlessly about, going to some of the shops, and looking at everything, for Christiania certainly is a lovely city. It is beautifully situated at the foot of pine-clad hills (no snowy peaks anywhere in sight, however, as it is at the end of the Christiania fjord, and is as clean as it can be, its public buildings are handsome, and many of the private residences give evidence of much wealth. Some of these are surrounded by extensive parks, filled with beautiful trees, walks and drives, and quite remind one of the splendid English country estates on a small scale. A town has stood on about this same site ever since 1050, but the modern town was founded by Christian IV. of Denmark in 1624, who named it after himself. In the old, medieval town, which was called Oslo, James I. of England married Anne of Denmark in 1589. The population of Christiania in 1903 was nearly 230,000, and I should guess its present population to be about 250,000, judging from its size, its buildings, and the number of its principal exports. Statues of Norway's kind and famous men confront you every little while in going over the city, and as before remarked, the effect of the whole is most pleasing. While Bergen was of course a little place in comparison to the other Norwegian towns we had visited, it had, unlike Christiania, little of the finish of the city in its appearance.

The people you meet on the streets here look bright and cheerful, and every one to whom we have appealed so far for information has spoken English to us, at least, and in a pleasant, friendly way. Elizabeth and I wanted to find a certain jeweler, and I asked a rosy-cheeked, pleasant young girl who was passing, asking

me to direct me to his shop. She tried to tell me how to get there, but it was complicated, and her English vocabulary limited, so she insisted upon taking us to the place herself, though it was a long walk and took her much out of her way. Elizabeth and I were delighted with the trolley cars, which had plate glass windows with pretty white curtains looped back from their sides, and the curtains are clean, too. We took a long ride during the afternoon in one of these, passing by the National Park, in which we saw many people walking, so concluded it must be thrown open to the public. We got a very good idea of the best residence part of Christiania during this ride, and our favorable impression of the city deepened with every hour of better acquaintance.

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The 55th Pa. Editor National Tribune: In order to settle a dispute with you please give short sketch of the 55th Pa.—Benjamin G. Worden, National Military Home, Kansas.

The 55th Pa. one of the fighting regiments, was organized at Harrisburg, Dec. 4, 1861, and after serving out two enlistments was finally mustered out Aug. 30, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Richard White, whose term of service expired March 24, 1865, and during the remaining months Lieut.-Col. James Metzger was in command. At Drewry's Bluff the 55th occupied an exposed position when the division was attacked by Beauregard's forces, and received the full force of the attack, losing over 300 men killed, wounded, and captured. Col. White and 164 men were taken prisoners. At Cold Harbor the regiment lost 12 killed, 110 wounded, and 29 missing, and in the assault on Petersburg, 4 killed, 124 wounded, and eight missing. During the closing battles of the war the 55th was in Twenty-fourth Corps. It belonged to Ames's Division, Sixth Corps, and lost 12 killed, 271 from disease, etc. Its total of killed and wounded was 782, and 96 of its members died in Confederate prisons.—Editor National Tribune.

The 142d N. Y. Editor National Tribune: Please give the full history of the 142d N. Y.—Felix Brooks, Independence, Iowa.

The 142d N. Y., one of the fighting regiments, was organized at Okeechobee, in September, 1862, and mustered out June 7, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Roscius W. Judson, Newton M. Curtis, and Albert M. Wagner in succession. The regiment remained in Washington till April, 1863, when it went to Suffolk, Va. It took part in the campaign of Gordon's Division, and in the Maryland march soon after Gettysburg. From Warrenton, Va., the regiment went to Morris Island, S. C., and in the following May joined Butler's Army of the James. Its losses at Drewry's Bluff and Bermuda Hundred were 19 killed, 78 wounded, and five missing. It sailed with Butler on the first expedition against Fort Fisher. The regiment secured a position so near the fort that Lieut. Walling captured a battle flag which had been shot down from the parapet. In the second assault on the fort, which was successfully led by Col. Curtis, this commander fell seriously wounded, but continued to lead his men until he was killed. He was designated the "Hero of Fort Fisher." It belonged to Turner's Division, Tenth Corps, and lost 129 killed and 163 from disease, etc. Its total of killed and wounded was 502, and 19 of its members died in Confederate prisons.—Editor National Tribune.

The 60th N. Y. Editor National Tribune: Please give a short sketch of the 60th N. Y.—H. J. Hathaway, Vermontville, N. Y.

The 60th N. Y., also called St. Lawrence Regiment, was organized at Ogdensburg, Oct. 30, 1861, and finally mustered out July 17, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Wm. B. Haywood, reorganized in January, 1862, succeeded by Col. Geo. S. Greene, a West Pointer, promoted to Brigadier-General April 23, 1862, succeeded by Col. Wm. B. Goodrich, who died of wounds received at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862. Col. Abel Godard then took command, was discharged Sept. 13, 1864, and succeeded by Lieut.-Col. Winslow M. Thomas, who resigned April 2, 1865. At the time of final muster-out, Lieut.-Col. Lewis S. Wilson was in command. It belonged to Geary's Division, Twelfth Corps, and lost 67 killed and 101 from disease, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

The 12th Conn. Editor National Tribune: Please give a short history of the 12th Conn.—Alfred Brown, 7 East North St., Bloom, N. Y.

The 12th Conn. was organized at Hartford from November to December, 1861, the original members mustered out Dec. 2, 1864, and the veterans and recruits consolidated into a battalion of six companies and mustered out Aug.

12, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Henry C. Deming, discharged Jan. 31, 1863, succeeded by Col. Ledyard Colburn, also discharged June 29, 1864. Lieut.-Col. Frank H. Peck then took command, but died Sept. 19, 1864, at Winchester, and at the time of muster-out Lieut.-Col. Geo. N. Lewis was in command. It belonged to Dwight's Division, Nineteenth Corps, and lost 71 killed, and 202 from disease, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

The 67th Ohio. Editor National Tribune: Please give me a short history of the 67th Ohio. I am an old subscriber to your paper.—N. N. Titus, Barton, Ala.

The 67th Ohio, one of the fighting regiments, was organized in the State at-large from October, 1861, to January, 1862. Upon the expiration of its term of service of three years the veterans and recruits were retained in service, and the 67th Ohio consolidated with the regiment Sept. 1, 1865. It was mustered out Dec. 7, 1865. It was commanded by Col. O. B. Buchanan and Alvin C. Voris in succession. The 67th was with Shields's Division at Kernstown, where it lost nine killed and 28 wounded, and was about to join McClellan on the James when that commander was obliged to withdraw his army, and the 67th was then ordered to Suffolk, where it spent some months. In the assault on Fort Wagner it lost 19 killed, 82 wounded and 25 missing, and at Chester Station 12 killed, 64 wounded and two missing, and from that time on was under fire almost daily for months. It belonged to Terry's Division, Tenth Corps, and lost 142 killed and 151 from disease, etc. It took part in 15 battles and was present in four others.—Editor National Tribune.

The 9th Wis. Editor National Tribune: I wish you would give a sketch of the 9th Wis. in The National Tribune.—Chas. Lorenz, Greenleaf, Wis.

The 9th Wis. was organized at Milwaukee from Oct. 29 to Nov. 26, 1861, and after serving out its term of three years the veterans and recruits consolidated into a battalion of four companies and finally mustered out Jan. 30, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Frederick Salomon, who was promoted to Brigadier-General July 16, 1862, followed by Col. Charles E. Salomon, who was mustered out upon the expiration of his term of service Dec. 3, 1864. Lieut.-Col. Arthur Jacob was in command at the time the battalion was mustered out. It belonged to Salomon's Division, Seventh A. F. Corps, and lost 77 killed and 114 from disease, etc. It took part in the battles of Newtonia, Spoonville and the engagements at Jenkins's Ferry.—Editor National Tribune.

The 2d Mass. H. A. Editor National Tribune: Please give a sketch of the 2d Mass. H. A.—D. H. Wilson, Garo, Colo.

The 2d Mass. H. A. was organized at Readville and Boston from July 28, 1862, to Dec. 24, 1863, and mustered out Sept. 3 and 15, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Jones Frankle all thru its service, lost 15 killed and 367 from disease, etc. It belonged to the Twelfth Corps, Seventh A. F. Corps, and lost 77 killed and 114 from disease, etc. It took part in the battles of Newtonia, Spoonville and the engagements at Jenkins's Ferry.—Editor National Tribune.

The 1st Tenn. L. A. Editor National Tribune: Will you give a short sketch of Co. E, 1st Tenn. L. A.—I. E. Bula, Mount Zion, Ill.

The 1st Tenn. L. A. was composed of five batteries and organized at Memphis, Nashville and Knoxville from June 3, 1862, to Oct. 18, 1863, and mustered out by batteries at different dates from July to August, 1865. Battery B was commanded by Capt. Henry C. Lawson, who resigned Jan. 31, 1864, succeeded by Capt. Henry C. Kelly, who also resigned Jan. 31, 1865, succeeded in turn by Capt. William J. Patterson, in command at the time of muster-out.—Editor National Tribune.

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The 67th Ind. Editor National Tribune: Please give a sketch of the 67th Ind.—William R. McCall, Salsburg, Ohio.

The 67th Ind. was organized at Madison, Aug. 29, 1862, and was consolidated with the 24th Ind. Dec. 31, 1864. It was commanded by Col. Frank Emerson, who was discharged March 10, 1864, and at the time of consolidation Maj. Francis A. Sears was in command. It belonged to A. J. Smith's Division, Thirteenth Corps, and lost 53 killed and 136 from disease, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

The 2d La. Editor National Tribune: Please give the history of the 2d La.—A. Hirlinger, Henrietta, Texas.

The 2d La. was organized at New Orleans from Sept. 29 to Oct. 23, 1862, and mustered out Sept. 11, 1864. It was commanded by Col. Chas. F. Paine, who resigned March 8, 1864, succeeded by Col. Chas. Everett.—Editor National Tribune.

See advertisement Gettysburg relics and souvenirs in classified columns, page 7.